Report of Central Team on situation in Orissa and Karnataka

550. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to invoke Article 355 of the Constitution to warn Orissa and Karnataka Governments to rein in violence following attacks on churches and prayer halls in the States;

(b) if so, whether Government has sent Central teams to Orissa and Karnataka to assess the damage being done to churches and prayer halls;

(c) if so, the details of reports submitted by the Central teams; and

(d) the stringent steps Government proposes to take to ensure that State Governments are properly handling the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The Ministry of Home Affairs had remained in continuous and close touch with the State Government of Orissa ever since incidents of communal violence were reported in the State. In addition, 7 advisories/communications were sent to the Government of Orissa between 25.8.2008 and 10.10.2008 at various levels, including the Home Secretary and the Union Home Minister. In these advisories/ communications, State Government of Orissa was asked/ directed to take stringent action against the persons indulging in communal violence, including identifying and apprehending the elements inciting and stoking communal violence/ hatred; ensure arrangements to provide security to members of the minority community and their places of worship, etc.; undertake comprehensive measures for relief and rehabilitation of the victims and other affected persons, including measures for reconstruction repair of residential and other structures that were burnt/damaged during the violence; and, take effective steps to create an environment in which people who had to leave their homes could return at the earliest.

Disappearing of finger prints

551. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly one lakh finger prints of hard core criminals digitally scored in the State Crime Records Bureau, Chennai have vanished;

(b) whether the investigating machinery are handicapped to track the criminals for want of such finger prints;

(c) how the deficiency could be made by other means; and

(d) the measures/precautions undertaken to avoid this kind of disappearance in other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No Sir, according to the State Government of Tamil Nadu it is not a fact that Finger Prints of Hard Core Criminals digitally stored in the State Crime Records Bureau have vanished. As the old data base was created about 5 years ago in a software named "FACTS" version 4 and some of the prints have become smudged and unclear, the data base of the finger prints is being digitally recreated in the updated software namely the "FACTS" version 5, which is a newly installed Automatic Fingerprints Identification System at SCRB, Chennai. All the back up records are in full shape and are maintained properly. No records are missing.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Unutilised Tsunami Relief Fund

552. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 6268/- crore of Tsunami relief fund, which is more than 60 per cent of total outlay, remained unutilized when deadline for completion of the rehabilitation programme launched in 2005-06, was fixed as March, 2009;

(b) whether State Governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands sought any extension of time from Government to complete projects like construction of ports, jetties and multistories tenements; and

(c) the reasons for inordinate delay indicating any possibility of Tsunami funds being allowed to lapse after deadline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) Revised Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme (TRP) was approved by the Government at Rs. 9822.10 crore comprising of Rs. 3332 crore as Externally Aided Project (EAP) and Rs. 6490 crore as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for the period of four years commencing from 2005-06 to 2008-09. Against this the allocation made in 4 years is Rs. 7117.68 crore (including both EAP & ACA). The actual expenditure as on 31.03.2008 was Rs. 3526.35 crore.

Empowered Group of Ministers while reviewing the progress of TRP have considered the time frame of the TRP and had decided that the concerned States/UTs should strive to overcome the difficulties to complete the work in time and the issue of extending the time will be considered separately only after a detailed review of the progress is made.

Checking Anti-national activities along Indo-Nepal Border

†553.SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to take any step to keep safe the main coming and going points of the Indo-Nepal border and to check even any kind of anti-national activities;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi